



Huckleberry Lane  
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Bloomfield, CT  
Permit No. 24

Perspectives on  
Culture, Life and  
Learning through  
Agriculture

# Power of Agriculture

**Time: 12:30 pm**  
Donald F. Harris SR.  
AgriScience Center,  
Botanical and Natural  
Resources classroom



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Resident  
Bloomfield, CT 06002

“Please Join Us”



What is sustainable agriculture? It seems like all you hear about today is “going green”. How does one go green and how can you empower yourself through agriculture. This semester-long series of events fosters openness, curiosity and dialogue about issues and topics in your community, country and world. All events will take place at the Donald F. Harris AgriScience & Technology Center. We challenge you to experience the “Power of Agriculture”.

## Climate Change Solutions in CT: Actions by the state, communities, and schools. How individuals can make a difference.



**Featuring: Lynn Stoddard**  
Friday, March 7th, 12:30pm

Lynn Stoddard has worked for the CT Department of Environmental Protection since 1986 in the areas of coastal management, recycling, solid waste planning, and pollution prevention. Lynn currently works on DEP’s Climate and Energy Team. Her work focuses on implementation of the CT Climate Change Action Plan and education on climate change impacts and solutions. She leads the inter-agency Climate Change Coordinating Committee, which provides staff support to the Governor’s Steering Committee on Climate Change. She also leads the CT Climate Change Education Committee. Lynn has a Bachelor’s degree from Bucknell University and a Master’s degree in Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania. Lynn was a member of the inaugural class of the Donella Meadows Leadership Fellows Program, which trains environmental and social leaders in systems thinking and organizational learning.

## What will we eat?

**Featuring: Bill Duesing**  
Thursday, March 20th, 12:30pm

Food is our most important energy source. Food is the way we take solar energy into our bodies to power them. In the last century, our food changed from a largely solar product to one extremely dependent upon fossil fuels and nuclear energy, as well as on non-sustainable agriculture. This has had disastrous consequences for the health of the Earth, of our society and ourselves. Pesticides, conventional fertilizers, food miles, fancy retailing and packaging all worsen climate change. Organic methods and local food can counter this damage.



Bill Duesing has been farming using organic methods for over 35 years on the Old Solar Farm in Oxford, and has been promoting a vigorous Connecticut food system for that time. He is currently the Executive Director of CT NOFA, the Northeast Organic Farming Association in Connecticut, president of the NOFA Interstate Council and past president of the Connecticut Farmland Trust.



Bill Duesing’s talk is supported in part by CT NOFA and by the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation to encourage young environmental leaders.



# Lecture Series on Sustainable Agriculture

## Invasive Plants in Connecticut: What They Are & Why They Are a Problem

Featuring: Todd Mervosh  
Friday, April 11th, 12:30pm



The term "invasive plants" refers to weeds of natural areas and minimally managed habitats. By definition, an invasive plant must not be native to the region it is invading. Invasive plants are a concern because they displace native vegetation and thereby disrupt ecosystem processes. The landscapes of New England have been and continue to be invaded by numerous plant species native to Europe and Asia. Non-native plants such as kudzu, invasive in states to our south, are gradually creeping northward because of warming conditions, especially milder winters. Todd Mervosh's presentation will cover the identification and negative characteristics of the most troublesome invasive plants in Connecticut.

Dr. Mervosh has expertise in the areas of weedy plant identification, weed biology, and weed management strategies for ornamental landscapes, field- and container-grown nursery stock, Christmas trees, pumpkins and small fruit crops. Dr. Mervosh currently works at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Valley Laboratory in Windsor, CT.

## Not Waiting on Washington: What States and Towns are doing to Combat Climate Change in the face of Failed Federal Policy

Featuring: Kat West  
Friday, May 9th, 12:30pm

Learn how the State of Connecticut has become a national leader in the fight to reduce harmful green house gas emissions. See what Bloomfield is doing to support green practices and how it has become a leading town in the state. This talk will cover the politics of clean energy and the power that individual citizens have to shape government and corporate policy. Learn how politicians have pushed to keep our economy tied to coal and oil and what you can do to put our nation on a path towards a clean energy future.

Kat West works for the renewable energy provider Sterling Planet, leading outreach program in the Connecticut and Massachusetts markets. A 2007 graduate of Trinity College, Kat was a successful environmental activist for the campus, raising thousands of dollars for the purchase of wind renewable energy and outdoor recycling bins. Kat grew up in Avon, Connecticut and now lives in Hartford.

## Harris Agricultural Fair



Farmer's Market 11am—2pm

On May 30<sup>th</sup> 2008, the students at the Harris Agriculture Center at Bloomfield High School will be hosting a CT Grown Farmer's Market at the Agriculture Center. We are inviting everyone to visit the Farm Market as well as to learn more about the Bloomfield school nutrition program and the district's initiative to feature more locally grown produce as part of school meals.



Community Welcome

May 30th - June 1st  
Harris Agriculture Center  
Friday 9am-3pm Open to Bloomfield Students Only  
Friday 3pm-9pm  
Saturday 10am-6pm  
Sunday 10am-6pm

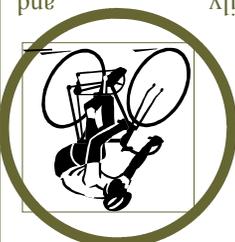
Feel the Power of Agriculture



## Bloomfield public schools presents Bike, Walk, Commute

### Leave Your Car At Home Today

Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Harris Agriculture Center, Front of Building



This year, Bloomfield schools bike to work day will coincide with the National Bike to work day. Come join area commuters who ride their bikes to work daily and the many others who will be participating in the annual National Bike to Work Day on Friday May 16th. May is bike to work month and Bloomfield schools has teamed up with many local businesses to promote an active lifestyle and reduce traffic congestion. On May 16th, 2008, starting at 7:30 am, anyone interested in saving money on gas is invited to stop by the Harris Agriculture center on their way to work to greet bike-riding commuters and Bloomfield High School's Farm-To-School program will be providing pastries, water and coffee.

If you are thinking of commuting by bike, check out [www.joerodrigues.org](http://www.joerodrigues.org) for more information on how to get started.

For additional information contact Joseph Rodrigues 242-0331

Occasionally, weather emergencies, speaker illness, or other unforeseen circumstances force us to reschedule or cancel events. Feel free to call to confirm any of our events, 860.286.2630 Ext. 141 We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

Need More information?

Contact Joe Rodrigues at 860.242.0331 or [prodriqnes@blmhd.org](mailto:prodriqnes@blmhd.org) Or Check online at [www.blmhd.org/agriculture](http://www.blmhd.org/agriculture)

